

In the claims:

For the convenience of the Examiner, all claims being examined, whether or not amended, are presented below.

1. **(Thrice Amended)** A method for promoting survival of mammalian neural cells, wherein said cells express an OP/BMP-activated serine/threonine kinase receptor and a GDNF- or NGF-activated tyrosine kinase receptor, comprising:

contacting said neural cells with an effective concentration of a preparation comprising

- (a) an OP/BMP morphogen having an amino acid sequence having at least 70% homology or 60% identity with the C-terminal seven cysteine skeleton of human OP-1, wherein said OP/BMP morphogen can induce ectopic bone, and
- (b) a GDNF neurotrophic factor or a NGF neurotrophic factor selected from GDNF, BDNF, NT-3, NT-4, NT-5 or NT-6.

- 11. **(Reiterated)** A method as in claim 1, wherein said neural cells comprise neurons or neurological cells.
- 13. **(Reiterated)** A method as in claim 1, wherein said neural cells comprise peripheral nervous system cells.
- 15. **(Reiterated)** A method as in claim 1, wherein said OP/BMP morphogen comprises an amino acid sequence having at least 80% homology with the C-terminal seven-cysteine skeleton of human OP-1, and wherein said OP/BMP morphogen can induce ectopic bone.
- 16. **(Reiterated)** A method as in claim 1, wherein said OP/BMP morphogen comprises an amino acid sequence having at least 90% homology with the C-terminal seven-cysteine skeleton of human OP-1, and wherein said OP/BMP morphogen can induce ectopic bone.
- 17. **(Reiterated)** A method as in claim 1, wherein said OP/BMP morphogen comprises an amino acid sequence at least 70% identical to the C-terminal seven-cysteine skeleton of human OP-1.

18. **(Thrice Amended)** A method as in claim 1, wherein said OP/BMP morphogen is selected from OP-1, OP-2, OP-3, BMP2, BMP3, BMP4, BMP5, BMP6 or BMP9.

D3 19. **(Amended Twice)** A method as in claim 1, wherein said effective concentration of the preparation is between 0.1 ng/ml and 10 µg/ml of said OP/BMP morphogen and between 0.1 ng/ml and 10 µg/ml of said GDNF neurotrophic factor or said NGF neurotrophic factor.

20. **(Reiterated)** A method as in claim 19 wherein, said effective concentration is between 1 ng/ml and 100 ng/ml of said OP/BMP morphogen.

21. **(Amended)** A method as in claim 19, wherein said effective concentration is between 1 ng/ml and 100 ng/ml of said GDNF neurotrophic factor or said NGF neurotrophic factor.

D4 22. **(Amended)** A method as in claim 19, wherein said effective concentration is between 1 ng/ml and 100 ng/ml of said OP/BMP morphogen and between 1 ng/ml and 100 ng/ml of said GDNF neurotrophic factor or said NGF neurotrophic factor.

D5 23. **(Amended Twice)** A method as in claim 1, wherein said GDNF neurotrophic factor comprises GDNF.

D6 28. **(Thrice Amended)** A pharmaceutical preparation for promoting the survival of mammalian neural cells, wherein said cells express an OP/BMP-activated serine/threonine kinase receptor and a GDNF- or NGF-activated tyrosine kinase receptor, comprising:

- (a) a GDNF neurotrophic factor or a NGF neurotrophic factor selected from GDNF, BDNF, NT-3, NT-4, NT-5 or NT-6, and
- (b) an OP/BMP morphogen having an amino acid sequence having at least 70% homology or 60% identity with the C-terminal seven cysteine skeleton of human OP-1, wherein said OP/BMP morphogen can induce ectopic bone.

29. **(Twice Amended)** A pharmaceutical preparation for inhibiting the death or degeneration of mammalian neural cells, wherein said cells express an OP/BMP-activated serine/threonine kinase receptor and a GDNF- or NGF-activated tyrosine kinase receptor, comprising:

- (a) a GDNF neurotrophic factor or a NGF neurotrophic factor selected from GDNF, BDNF, NT-3, NT-4, NT-5 or NT-6, and
- (b) an OP/BMP morphogen having an amino acid sequence having at least 70% homology or 60% identity with the C-terminal seven cysteine skeleton of human OP-1, wherein said OP/BMP morphogen can induce ectopic bone.

Please also add the following new claims:

30. (New) The pharmaceutical preparation of claim 28 or claim 29, wherein said GDNF neurotrophic factor comprises GDNF.
31. (New) The pharmaceutical preparation of claim 28 or claim 29, wherein said NGF neurotrophic factor comprises NT-3.
32. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein said NGF neurotrophic factor comprises NT-3.

*The claims presented above incorporate changes as indicated by the marked-up version below.*

1. (**Thrice Amended**) A method for promoting survival ~~or growth~~ of mammalian neural cells, wherein said cells express an OP/BMP-activated serine/threonine kinase receptor and a ~~GDNF/NGF~~ GDNF- or NGF-activated tyrosine kinase receptor, comprising:  
contacting said neural cells with an effective concentration of a preparation comprising
- (a) an OP/BMP morphogen having an amino acid sequence having at least 70% homology or 60% identity with the C-terminal seven cysteine skeleton of human OP-1, wherein said OP/BMP morphogen can induce ectopic bone, and
  - (b) a ~~GDNF/NGF~~ neurotrophic factor or a NGF neurotrophic factor selected from GDNF, BDNF, NT-3, NT-4, NT-5 ~~and~~ or NT-6.
18. (**Thrice Amended**) A method as in claim 1, wherein said OP/BMP morphogen is selected from OP-1, OP-2, OP-3, BMP2, BMP3, BMP4, BMP5, BMP6 ~~and~~ or BMP9.
19. (**Amended Twice**) A method as in claim 1, wherein said effective concentration of the preparation is between 0.1 ng/ml and 10 µg/ml of said OP/BMP morphogen and between

0.1 ng/ml and 10 µg/ml of said GDNF/~~NGF~~ neurotrophic factor or said NGF neurotrophic factor.

21. **(Amended)** A method as in claim 19, wherein said effective concentration is between 1 ng/ml and 100 ng/ml of said GDNF/~~NGF~~ neurotrophic factor or said NGF neurotrophic factor.
22. **(Amended)** A method as in claim 19, wherein said effective concentration is between 1 ng/ml and 100 ng/ml of said OP/BMP morphogen and between 1 ng/ml and 100 ng/ml of said GDNF/~~NGF~~ neurotrophic factor or said NGF neurotrophic factor.
23. **(Amended Twice)** A method as in claim 1, wherein said GDNF/~~NGF~~ neurotrophic factor comprises GDNF.
28. **(Thrice Amended)** A pharmaceutical preparation for promoting the survival ~~or growth~~ of mammalian neural cells, wherein said cells express an OP/BMP-activated serine/threonine kinase receptor and a ~~GDNF/NGF~~ GDNF- or NGF-activated tyrosine kinase receptor, comprising:
  - (a) a GDNF/~~NGF~~ neurotrophic factor or a NGF neurotrophic factor selected from GDNF, BDNF, NT-3, NT-4, NT-5 ~~and~~ or NT-6, and
  - (b) an OP/BMP morphogen having an amino acid sequence having at least 70% homology or 60% identity with the C-terminal seven cysteine skeleton of human OP-1, wherein said OP/BMP morphogen can induce ectopic bone.
29. **(Twice Amended)** A pharmaceutical preparation for inhibiting the death or degeneration of mammalian neural cells, wherein said cells express an OP/BMP-activated serine/threonine kinase receptor and a ~~GDNF/NGF~~ GDNF- or NGF-activated tyrosine kinase receptor, comprising:
  - (a) a GDNF/~~NGF~~ neurotrophic factor or a NGF neurotrophic factor selected from GDNF, BDNF, NT-3, NT-4, NT-5 ~~and~~ or NT-6, and
  - (b) an OP/BMP morphogen having an amino acid sequence having at least 70% homology or 60% identity with the C-terminal seven cysteine skeleton of human OP-1, wherein said OP/BMP morphogen can induce ectopic bone.